

I am in agreement with RM-10811. Amateur radio needs to be held to the highest standards. Since the heightened need for higher homeland security has been demonstrated, we need to insure that only the highest standard for Amateur Radio Operators be upheld. Since 911, this is more true. Emergency communication requires very well trained operators. This includes every mode of RF communications. Yes, I will mention morse code. It has been proven that when all other forms of communications fail, morse does work!

Some individuals state that morse code should be eliminated from amateur radio. It is a tool. It is an art. If we let morse die, the most reliable form of communication will fall into the past. It will be a memory. An important tool will be gone.

I have a friend who took the 5 wpm code examination. He thought that morse was "bunk". I encouraged him to develop his skills he had learned with morse code. Now his opinion is a lot different. "Morse code is fun." he said. Why allow this art form to die, when it is fun to use once the "art" is mastered.

Do not let a few people that want an easy way out to spoil a fun skill. These people do not know accomplishment. Morse requires work to acquire the skill. The fun comes after the work.

Respectfully submitted,

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20 word a minute Extra Class Licensee (and proud of it)